

Supervisor Lesko and Councilwoman Bonner Take the Polar Plunge at Cedar Beach to Support Special Olympics New York

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Photo 1: See caption below.



Photo 2: See caption below.

Farmingville, NY - On Saturday, November 20, Supervisor Mark Lesko, Councilwoman Jane Bonner and other Town employees braved the cold waters of the Long Island Sound to take the Polar Plunge in support of the Special Olympics New York. The event, co-sponsored by the Town of Brookhaven, was held at Cedar Beach in Mt. Sinai and included over 300 participants. According to the event organizers, the total amount raised was over \$28,000 with the top fundraiser being Town employee Thomas Roach who raised more than \$2000.

"The water was cold, but it was for a good cause!" said Supervisor Lesko, who was in the first group of plungers on Saturday. "The Polar Plunge was a great event and I commend the organizers and volunteers for the work they do for the Special Olympics. I thank all of the spectators and volunteers, including the Special Olympics volunteers and participants, Town employees, residents, fire and ambulance staff, and everyone there who cheered me and the rest of the plungers on as we dove into water. I hope this becomes a yearly event in the Town of Brookhaven."

Councilwoman Bonner said, "I was so pleased to see such a large crowd of people turn out for this event. It really shows how much Brookhaven residents care and are willing to help make a difference for those who need our support." She continued, "The Special Olympics is a great organization and I look forward to working with them to make next year's event even bigger."

PHOTO 1: Athlete Matt Milanese, Supervisor Lesko, Bob Milanese (Matt's father and coach), Deputy Commissioner of Parks John Leonard, coach Joe Branzetti, athlete Brian Shiralli and Councilwoman Jane Bonner.

PHOTO 2: Supervisor Mark Lesko (left) and Councilwoman Jane Bonner (right) warm up after the plunge with athlete Matthew Schuster from Medford (center).

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